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UM radio-tv students sweep regional SPJ awards

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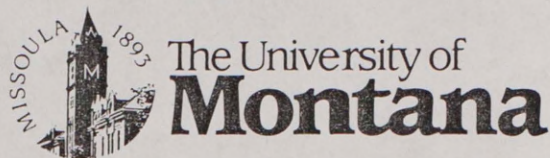
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NEWS RELEASE

May 20, 2005

Contact: Ray Ekness, UM radio-television department chair, (406) 243-4088.

UM RADIO-TV STUDENTS SWEEP REGIONAL SPJ AWARDS

MISSOULA —

Students in The University of Montana Radio-Television Department swept the television categories in the recent Region 10 Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Awards.

In all, 19 UM students or student-produced programs were winners. The awards were presented May 7 at the annual SPJ convention in Seattle. Region 10 of SPJ includes schools in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana.

Each year SPJ presents the Mark of Excellence Awards to honor the best in student journalism. The awards offer 45 categories for print, radio, television and online collegiate journalism.

Regional first-place winning entries are forwarded to the national Mark of Excellence competition. National winners will be named at the upcoming 2005 SPJ National Convention in Las Vegas.

The winners are:

Television General News Reporting

■ **First place** -- "Term Limits" by Aaron Flint of **Glasgow** and Libby Riddle of **Missoula**.

■ **Second place** -- "Gambling" by Aaron Flint of **Glasgow**, Van Redpath of **Great Falls** and Dustin Blanchet of **Dutton**.

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■ **Third place** -- "Cyanide Mining Initiative" by Tim Reilly of **Gallatin Gateway** and Mollie Reiss of **Woodland Park, Colo.**

Television Feature

■ **First place** -- "Small Towns: Bynum" by Sarah Lenochn of **Kalispell** and Steve Abatiell of **Rutland, Vt.**

■ **Second place** -- "Disability Workout" by Alison Bryce of **Tuscaloosa, Ala.**, and Gabe Ferguson of **Belgrade.**

■ **Third place** -- "Day of the Dead" by Angela Marshall of **Seeley Lake** and Megan McFarland of **Sioux Falls, S.D.**

Television In-depth Reporting

■ **First place** -- "Montana Journal: 2004 Ballot Issues" by the UM class of 2005.

■ **Second place** -- "No Child Left Behind" by the UM class of 2004.

Television Sports Reporting

■ **First place** -- "Scott McGowan" by Sarah Lenochn of **Kalispell** and Dustin Blanchet of **Dutton.**

Television News Photography

■ **First place** -- "Gambling" by Van Redpath of **Great Falls** and Dustin Blanchet of **Dutton.**

Television Feature Photography

■ **First place** -- "Small Towns: Emigrant" by Kalee Scolatti of **Missoula.**

Television Sports Photography

- **First place** -- "Scott McGowan" by Dustin Blanchet of **Dutton**.

UM also won a number of awards in the radio categories:

Radio Feature

- **First place** -- "Addicted to Gambling" by Stan Pillman of Chicago.
- **Third place** -- "Thanksgiving Refugees" by Eli Bierwag of **Missoula**.

Radio Sports Reporting

- **First place** -- "No Name Jerseys" by Andrea Lutz of **Kalispell**.
- **Second place** -- "UM Golf Team" by Derek Buerkle of **Big Timber**.

There also were two winners from the School of Journalism's print department:

In-depth Reporting

- **Third place** -- "Blackfeet housing on shaky foundation" by Adam Weinacker.

Sports Writing

- **Second place** -- "Athletics inaccurate with fee comparison" by Alisha Wyman.

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